



## Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man.

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## To Short Horn Breeders.

Mr. Lewis F. Allen of Black Rock, N. Y., the compiler of the American Herd Book of Short Horn cattle, has just issued the following circular to the breeders of this class of cattle in the United States and British Provinces:

"I shall continue to receive pedigree for Vol. IX. American Short Horn Herd Book, until the first day of July coming, to which time I can record them. If you have any other means of my usual circular, with terms, directions, &c., I will be glad to receive them on application, making remittances of money with the pedigree, to be sent them, by mail, in a check on a Bank in New York City, payable to my order, a Post Office order on Buffalo, or Bank note, in a registered letter, or Bank note by Express, charged paid, directed to me at Buffalo. Direct all mail matter to me at Black Rock, N. Y."

## A Maine Crab Apple.

We had the following in a late number of the *New Yorker*, and should be glad to receive more information in regard to the apple, from any of our readers:

"A YOUNG CRAB. Under the above, which he thought could have sprung from a Siberian Crab. He says: 'The parent tree was six inches in diameter when I was a small boy, twenty-five years ago; and when there were a great many seedlings, none proved to be as good as either of them. These stems were to be sold by Capt. James Sampson's full blood Durban bull.'

## New England Fair.

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# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

*The Maine Farmer.*

Augusta, Saturday, May 15, 1869.

TERM OF THE MAINE FARMER,  
\$1.00 in advance, or \$5.00 if not paid within  
three months of the date of subscription.

THESE terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be creditable in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

BY A subscriber desiring to change the post office address of his paper must communicate to us the name of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

## COLLECTORS' NOTICE.

Mr. C. S. Atten is now canvassing and collecting in the County of Franklin.

Mr. T. D. Mull will call upon subscribers in Hancock County during the month of May and June.

Mr. E. Russell will call upon subscribers in Oxford County in May and June.

## The Alabama Claims.

It will be remembered that George Francis Train supplemented his recent lecture in our city by some desultory remarks on the text, "Pay the Alabama claims or fight." A practical enforcement of the views set forth by Mr. Sumner in his elaborate exposition of the grounds of these claims would seem to require, not only that England should be compelled to "walk up and settle" or accept the alternative presented by Mr. Train, but that she must make a full and frank confession of the moral turpitude of her conduct towards us during the war as a subject precedent to anything that may be said on the subject of specific damages. There is no probability, however, that Mr. Sumner's speech was intended as a warlike menace. It purports to have been made in the interest of that permanent peace which can only result from a final settlement of this vexed question, and the removal of all cause for rancor and heart-burning hereafter.

He denounces the Johnson-Claforen treaty, which was properly rejected by the Senate, because it provided only for the settlement of a "batch of individual claims," giving England an opportunity to file in set-off even the claims of confederate bondholders, and utterly ignoring the "massive grievances" under which our country suffered, and which is still the root of the whole difficulty. He then proceeds to state our case against England with that analytical precision characteristic of all his speeches, but with unusual directness and clearness of argument. The case begins with the "fatal concessions" prematurely made, which gave confederate ships the rank of belligerents and enabled rebels to build ships in England and sail them without incurring the liability of pirates. He then connects England, out of the mouths of her own statesmen, of "gross negligence" which was "scandal and a reproach" and indicated connivance, in permitting the escape of the Alabama and consort ships whose depredations and burnings made the ocean blaze with American commerce. His rule of damages is a comprehensive one, giving us a "colossal sum total," seen not only in individual losses, but in those national losses caused by the destruction of our commerce and the prolongation of the war.

While it cannot be doubted that this statement of the case expresses the feelings of a large majority of those who have never been ardent admirers of Mr. Sumner's political theories, it is rapidly becoming a source of great among thoughtful statesmen and candid journalists, that such prominence was given to the idea of a conscious acknowledgement of the insult to our national sovereignty in issuing the proclamation of neutrality with unfeigned haste. A satisfactory settlement of our claims would necessarily have involved an admission of the international wrong committed.

The British Government might even have made an express apology for the crime of the Alabama as an act of war against a friendly power.

But while England retains a scintilla of her ancient pride as mistress of the sea, she will never submit to the humiliation of apologizing for a solemn proclamation of her government, and patiently confessing that it was an offence against the dignity of the United States. If she were to make such a mortifying confession she would receive the contempt of all first class governments of Europe. It seems extravagant and absurd to expect it. Our government should have been contented with an apology and redress for the depredations of the Alabama without quibbling on the technical injury to national honor. Thus while this demand of Mr. Sumner seems superfluous and certain to fail of British compliance, cannot possibly do any good, it may be inferred from the tone of the English press that it has already been productive of harm by uniting all parties, Liberals as well as Tories, in a more decided opposition to our claims. Even John Bright, the staunch friend of America and of liberal government everywhere, is disposed to deny the justice of Mr. Sumner's demand.

It must be admitted that Englishmen have some reason for thinking that we are a queer people to make bargains with. Beverly Johnson was unanimously confirmed by the Senate as our Minister to England, and in the absence of any authoritative intimations to the contrary, was naturally received as the representative of the American people and Government. Yet the treaty negotiated by him for the settlement of the Alabama question was contemptuously rejected by the same body that gave him a unanimous confirmation.

The British government naturally inquire how they are to know what we are fairly and properly represented at their court, and what assurance they can have that any adjustment which may be agreed to our Ministers will prove satisfactory to our Senate. The British Legation ask what it is that we want and what will we have from their government.

The question is, shall a large number of scholars be detained in the lower schools, and their advancement checked, or leave school altogether at the age of twelve, or shall accommodations be provided for a regular progression according to attainments? Let this question be considered, and answered next Saturday.

LEGAL DECISION. We learn from the New York papers that Chas. A. Lambert, Esq., of Boston, formerly in this city, has had a very important case decided in his favor. Judge Barnard of New York has decided in the case of Lambert v. Ames and others (the same principle being involved in the case of James Fink, Jr., against the Credit Mobilier,) and deems that Mr. Lambert, as one of nine corporators, whose interests, by agreement, were to be equal, having subscribed for one-ninth share of the stock of the Pacific and Sioux City Railroad Company, is entitled to one-ninth share of new stock subscribed by Blair and Ames without the knowledge of their fellow-corporators. The decision requires Blair and Ames to transfer the 2777 shares of stock, with all dividends claimed, or pay the plaintiff \$222,160 within sixty days, besides the costs of the litigation.

WE learn that our townsmen, Capt. B. H. Gilbreth, at the past eight years Military Store Keeper, stationed at the U. S. Arsenal in this city, has received orders transferring him to a similar position at the Arsenal in Benicia, California. He leaves for his new post of duty via the Pacific Railroad, early in June. The many friends of Capt. Gilbreth, and they compose almost our entire community, will regret to see him departing from among them, but he will carry with him to his distant field of duty their warm personal esteem and earnest wishes for his continued health and prosperity, and the hope that at some time not far in the future, he may return to his native State and spend the evening of his days among those who are well known and appreciate his many estimable traits of character, as an officer, a citizen, and a man.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT. By dispatch received in this city, over the Western Union Line, we learn that a serious accident occurred on the P. S. & P. Railroad, on Wednesday morning. The 9 A. M. train for Boston ran off the track at North Berwick. The engine and three cars are a total wreck. Engineer F. F. Lemphey, the baggage master, and a freightman were fatally injured. A man who is missing, is supposed to be crushed to death under the rails. One lady, name unknown, had a leg broken, and three passengers in the smoking car were more or less seriously injured. Medical attendance was immediately dispatched to the scene of the disaster by a special train from Portland. Several passengers from this city were on board, but none of them are injured.

Under these circumstances the controversy seems likely to be indefinitely prolonged. Indeed we have virtuous and magnanimous statesmen, like Mr. F. B. Butler, who have deliberately set down upon the "waiting plan" as the most desirable and satisfactory. We would watch for an opportunity when England shall be engaged in hostilities with some other power, and then invoke the very doctrine which we now complain of against England, pounce upon her vast commerce in every sea, and thus destroy her greatest source of pride and strength. To indulge in retaliatory measures of this kind might gratify the popular sense of national wrong, but would compel very poorly with the sincerity of our construction of international law and add little to our claims to the character of a just and magnanimous people.

The suggestion that our federal government should assume and pay the individual losses sustained by the ravages of Anglo-Scots pirates, or a liberal percentage of them, pending the settlement with England, seems equitable and expedient. Any of our shippers, now past the active period of life, refusing to sail under English colors, suddenly found themselves reduced to bankruptcy by such spoliations. The reimbursement of fifty per cent. of such losses now would be far more gratifying to these sufferers than the distant prospect arising from a final settlement with England. Let us do justice to the patriotic subject, even if we fail to obtain it from the cautious and reluctant foreigners.

ON Friday morning last, about three o'clock, fire was discovered in the basement of the wooden building on the corner of Water and Oak streets, in this city, owned by H. H. Cushing, Esq., and occupied by Messrs. Faribault & Sonney as an eating saloon, and Mr. E. S. Lane, hair-dresser. The fire was easily extinguished by the firemen, with slight damage to the property of either owner or company. The loss was fully covered by insurance.

THE Augusta correspondent of the Boston *Journal* says there are eleven Commanderies of Knight Templars in Maine, with a total membership of between six and seven hundred. A proportion is under consideration for them to go into camp the coming August for drill, social intercourse and recreation. In their rich and showy uniforms a parade of Sir Knights would present a fine spectacle.

THE members of the Unitarian Society of this city, are making preparations for the performance of a new organ, in a few weeks, which we have no doubt will prove as attractive and agreeable as the former entertainments of this Society have been.

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THE Boston



# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER

## Poetry.

### INVITATION.

Come, gentle Spring! Across the hills retreating,  
Day after day the heats of Winter fly,  
And the bright sunbeams bring the frosty weather,  
And the cold, the north, the snow, the blizzard.  
All the sweet sounds that come with Summer's waking,  
All the bright dreams that he bears in his head,  
And the bright sunbeams bring the snow, the blizzard,  
And the cold, the north, the snow, the blizzard.  
Come, gentle Spring! We will the winter smiling,  
Of thy clear eyes when May-day hours unfold;  
We will the winter smiling, when the snow is melting,  
Went to the field the primrose cups of May.  
Bring back the wild birds with the spring coming,  
Bring back the green leaves swelling on the tree,  
Bring back the wild birds with the spring coming,  
And the twilight murmur of the woodpecker.

## Our Story-Teller.

### THE FOUNDLING.

#### A DOMESTIC STORY OF NEW ENGLAND.

"Talk about plausibility!" exclaimed Miss Aix; "you're always so sick of it. You might as well sit up and have it back. You ought to see our house at home—brother Hirsh's—with four or five great strapping boys, making a hubbub near the biggest part of the time. I kalkie that that would set you about wild—you folks, so used to quiet and order."

"I think I could stand the noise and litter of a little child," replied Patience Pearson, with a faint smile; "but if I am particular. We wouldn't grumble at the extra work it would make, would we, Grandma?"

"Look, now! I've got grandmas, a round merry old lady, with all sorts of nice crannies about her chin. A baby is just the same, though it's a little bigger. I tell 'em I tell 'em! Patience," with a sly wink at Miss Aix; "and I wouldn't care if there was a dozen of 'em; I was used to a boun'ch' family, when I was a gal, and I always enjoyed it. We had ginal' trainin' every day in the year, at home. At last Miss Aix took her speech."

It was just at sunset of a March afternoon. A few violet clouds barred the wind red of the horizon.

Fatioces looked down the road, through the bare trees, as she paused a moment with fanning the heavy winter winds, when she saw the silent, long, lowing pile of snow in corners of the dooryard, the yellowish, sodden grass about the edges of the pony-bed, the stumps of trees and snow-ball bushes spreading out like fingers from the palm of a hand, the saw, and the axe.

"Nathan will be very late to-night," said she, at last, as if speaking her thoughts.

"Sakes alive!" returned Grandma, from her warm nook by the fire. "I guess he will. That piece of snow over Rimey Hill is a mile off, and it's a long time this time of year to get over the houses with the heat off, with the heat off, with the heat off."

"I think he's in a pretty bad way," said Patience sympathetically. "The child must stay here to-night, of course; and to-morrow we'll see what's best to do."

That night the grown folks did not sleep so soundly as common. Nathan had hardly yet replied to a "yapp," to make the women sick of their bargain.

But the darling slept as sweetly on her improved bed as if she had been cradled in roses. Very early next morning, however, she was awake crooning and laughing, with arms beating up and down, like the wings of a bird.

"Hunkey doory!" cried Grandma, as she sat dressing the new comer, near a window all glorified with sunlight. "This is the way you looked Nata, when a little baby!"

"No, mother, I ain't no hand to tend babies," replied Nathan, blushing shy. He could not trust himself, if those little chubby hands got to patting his heart, and twining themselves in among his heart-stones.

"I always thought you took naturally to children," said Grandma, looking up over her eyes, a little damped.

The other day I chanced to enter a friend's house. He did not know I was in the parlor, and I overheard his conversation. He was very harsh in his dealing with his child. He was "out of sorts" that morning, "I've got a bad cold," he said, "and I'm not in the mood to be a father." Then he said, "I'm a bad angel; and Anna Julia declared that I was a "perfect devil."

"Then the Tom came, and all my pretty toys were given to him 'cause he was the baby, and I was cuffed and scolded by everybody 'cept grandmas, and she's good to me, though there's been two other angels."

It was a bad habit his wife and children had, and she was the baby before, and don't know anything about it. I can remember long, long ago, I used to call me "sweat little darling," and pass him around his neck, and he'd be a good angel, and Anna Julia declared that I was a "perfect devil."

"Then the Tom came, and all my pretty toys were given to him 'cause he was the baby, and I was cuffed and scolded by everybody 'cept grandmas, and she's good to me, though there's been two other angels."

There was nothing that touched Nathan in his tender heart like the probability of being forced to "work" over.

Patience could not speak; tears filled her eyes, and a choking sensation came up into her throat.

"I suppose you are right, Nathan," she faltered at last. "But I have longed and prayed for a baby ever since I've been here, and I would like to have it now."

The coming of this little stranger seemed precious and providential. She's a perfect beauty, when awake, and such a winning, good-natured darling. But I suppose I must make my mind to let her away."

"I suppose I won't be in a pretty bad way," said Patience sympathetically. "The child must stay here to-night, of course; and to-morrow we'll see what's best to do."

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